

AMENDMENTS

Please delete the title of the application as filed, and replace it with the following:

✓
CELLS IMMORTALIZED WITH TELOMERASE REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE
FOR USE IN DRUG SCREENING

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub G1
examiner's
C1
21. (Amended) A method of drug screening or validation of a drug, comprising:

- a) obtaining a drug or drug candidate;
- b) obtaining a cultured mammalian cell comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a telomerase reverse transcriptase protein, variant, or fragment having telomerase catalytic activity when complexed with a telomerase RNA, wherein the nucleic acid sequence hybridizes under stringent conditions to a polynucleotide having a sequence complementary to SEQ. ID NO:1, and wherein the expression of the protein, variant, or fragment in the cell increases the number of divisions the cell can undergo before senescence;
- c) administering the drug or drug candidate to the cultured cell; and
- d) determining if the drug or drug candidate has an effect on the cell.

C2
24. (Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a constitutive promoter.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the nucleic acid comprises an inducible promoter.

Please ADD the following new claim:

C3
34
59. The method of claim 21, comprising determining whether the drug or drug candidate is lethal to the cell.

Upon allowance of the application, please renumber the claims as follows:

Claim	21	→	1
	22	→	8
	23	→	6
	24	→	4
	25	→	5
	26	→	9
	27	→	10
	28	→	11
	29	→	12
	30	→	13
	31	→	14
	32	→	15
	33	→	16
	34	→	17
	35	→	18
	36	→	19
	37	→	20
	38	→	21
	39	→	22
	40	→	23

Claim	41	→	24
	42	→	25
	43	→	26
	44	→	27
	45	→	28
	46	→	29
	47	→	30
	48	→	31
	49	→	32
	50	→	33
	51	→	34
	52	→	35
	53	→	36
	54	→	37
	55	→	38
	56	→	39
	57	→	2
	58	→	3
	59	→	7